

**From:** [Mata, Carsen](#)  
**To:** [Region2 RRC-InformationOfficer](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Duckworth Warren letter on Vieques and Culebra  
**Date:** Thursday, November 02, 2017 3:02:58 PM  
**Attachments:** [17.10.25 - Duckworth Warren Letter on Vieques Culebra Letter Re. Superfu....pdf](#)  
[IQ1152754 - Sen. Tammy Duckworth et al - Incoming 25Oct2017 PetelopezOK.docx](#)

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## Carsen Mata

Congressional Liaison for NY & NJ  
U.S. EPA - Region 2  
Public Affairs Division  
290 Broadway | 26<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007  
212-637-3652 | [mata.carsen@epa.gov](mailto:mata.carsen@epa.gov)

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**From:** Mata, Carsen  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 02, 2017 2:55 PM  
**To:** 'Battaglia, Anthony' <[anthony.battaglia@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:anthony.battaglia@fema.dhs.gov)>; FEMA-NRCC-ohul <[FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov)>  
**Cc:** Cabana, Benjamin <[Benjamin.Cabana@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Cabana@fema.dhs.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Duckworth Warren letter on Vieques and Culebra

Hi Anthony!

Thanks so much for checking in – I think our HQ folks must have known you were going to ask me for an update, because they just sent me an email approving our response.

I've attached the incoming inquiry, in addition to the word doc. That has EPA's input highlighted. This has already gone through Region 2's approval process, which includes our regional administrator – and again, has already been OK'd by our Office of Public Affairs at HQ. If you have any questions feel free to give me a call.

I appreciate your patience!!

## Carsen Mata

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**From:** Battaglia, Anthony [<mailto:anthony.battaglia@fema.dhs.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 02, 2017 2:36 PM  
**To:** Mata, Carsen <[Mata.Carsen@epa.gov](mailto:Mata.Carsen@epa.gov)>; FEMA-NRCC-ohul <[FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov)>  
**Cc:** Cabana, Benjamin <[Benjamin.Cabana@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Cabana@fema.dhs.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Duckworth Warren letter on Vieques and Culebra

Hi Carsen,

How are things coming along with the review process?

Thanks,

AB

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**From:** Battaglia, Anthony  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 1, 2017 11:03 AM  
**To:** 'Mata, Carsen' <[Mata.Carsen@epa.gov](mailto:Mata.Carsen@epa.gov)>; FEMA-NRCC-ohul <[FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov)>  
**Cc:** Cabana, Benjamin <[Benjamin.Cabana@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Cabana@fema.dhs.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Duckworth Warren letter on Vieques and Culebra

Great, thanks for the update!

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**From:** Mata, Carsen [<mailto:Mata.Carsen@epa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 1, 2017 11:00 AM  
**To:** Battaglia, Anthony <[anthony.battaglia@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:anthony.battaglia@fema.dhs.gov)>; FEMA-NRCC-ohul <[FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov)>  
**Cc:** Cabana, Benjamin <[Benjamin.Cabana@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Cabana@fema.dhs.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Duckworth Warren letter on Vieques and Culebra

Hi Anthony,

Wanted to give you a heads up that we're still fine-tuning a little bit of this information and then running it up our REOC/regional chain of command. I should have this back to you before today ends!

Thanks for your patience,

### **Carsen Mata**

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**From:** Battaglia, Anthony [<mailto:anthony.battaglia@fema.dhs.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2017 3:46 PM  
**To:** Mata, Carsen <[Mata.Carsen@epa.gov](mailto:Mata.Carsen@epa.gov)>; FEMA-NRCC-ohul <[FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov)>  
**Cc:** Cabana, Benjamin <[Benjamin.Cabana@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Cabana@fema.dhs.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Duckworth Warren letter on Vieques and Culebra

Hi Carsen,

The draft is attached. Let me know if you need anything else.

Anthony

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**From:** Mata, Carsen [<mailto:Mata.Carsen@epa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2017 3:40 PM  
**To:** Battaglia, Anthony <[anthony.battaglia@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:anthony.battaglia@fema.dhs.gov)>; FEMA-NRCC-ohul <[FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov)>  
**Cc:** Cabana, Benjamin <[Benjamin.Cabana@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Cabana@fema.dhs.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Duckworth Warren letter on Vieques and Culebra

Hi Anthony,

Thanks for your email! Jen sent me a photo of the draft response, which was helpful – but is there any way you can send me the word version? Our Ops people have some suggestions and would like to input track changes directly, just for convenience sake.

Thanks in advance for your help! I'll look out for the word doc if you can send it over!

**Carsen Mata**

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290 Broadway | 26<sup>th</sup> Floor  
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**From:** Battaglia, Anthony [<mailto:anthony.battaglia@fema.dhs.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2017 3:13 PM  
**To:** Mata, Carsen <[Mata.Carsen@epa.gov](mailto:Mata.Carsen@epa.gov)>; FEMA-NRCC-ohul <[FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov)>  
**Cc:** Cabana, Benjamin <[Benjamin.Cabana@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Cabana@fema.dhs.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Duckworth Warren letter on Vieques and Culebra

Hi Carsen,

Thank you for your assistance. I believe Jen is working on a final review of the initial language.

As Steve mentioned, we will share a final version with EPA for coordination before anything is signed and mailed from FEMA.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Anthony

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**Anthony J. Battaglia**

Policy Analyst  
Office of Policy and Performance | Response Directorate  
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)  
United States Department of Homeland Security  
Cell: 202-718-3349

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**From:** Mata, Carsen [<mailto:Mata.Carsen@epa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2017 2:19 PM  
**To:** Battaglia, Anthony <[anthony.battaglia@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:anthony.battaglia@fema.dhs.gov)>; FEMA-NRCC-ohul <[FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Duckworth Warren letter on Vieques and Culebra

Hi Jen and Anthony!

I was looped in on this inquiry because I'm currently serving as the congressional liaison for EPA Region 2's hurricane response. I wanted to introduce myself so that you had a POC for this one, and for any other inquiries

you get in the future that require EPA information.

I saw the two specific questions that FEMA asked EPA to respond to for your draft response below – I can get those over to our Ops folks so they can begin pulling that information together.

There have been other congressional inquiries that require joint response between agencies – are we in agreement that for this specific one, we will be coordinating one response as well? Are you folks able to take the first cut at a draft, and then I'll have Ops add in their pieces? Let me know if that process works.

As I'm sure you'll have to - I'll run the specific EPA portion through our chain of approval in the region and with our HQ office, then will get it back to you.

If you want to chat by phone I'm largely available this afternoon. Thanks!

### **Carsen Mata**

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U.S. EPA - Region 2  
Public Affairs Division  
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New York, NY 10007  
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**From:** Rodriguez, Elias

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2017 1:08 PM

**To:** Mata, Carsen <[Mata.Carsen@epa.gov](mailto:Mata.Carsen@epa.gov)>; Region2 RRC-InformationOfficer <[Region2\\_RRC-InformationOfficer@epa.gov](mailto:Region2_RRC-InformationOfficer@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Touw, Steve <[Touw.Steve@epa.gov](mailto:Touw.Steve@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** FW: Duckworth Warren letter on Vieques and Culebra

Thx. Looping in our congressional expert in R2.

Elias Rodriguez, M.P.A.  
Public Information Officer,  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Currently at the Regional Emergency Operations Center, Edison. N.J.  
[rodriguez.elias@epa.gov](mailto:rodriguez.elias@epa.gov)  
732-672-5520



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EPA's Region 2 Covers N.J., N.Y., P. R. and the U.S. V.I.

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**From:** Touw, Steve

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2017 1:07 PM

**To:** Rodriguez, Elias <[Rodriguez.Elias@epa.gov](mailto:Rodriguez.Elias@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** FEMA-NRCC-ohul <[FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov)>

**Subject:** FW: Duckworth Warren letter on Vieques and Culebra

Elias,

Below is additional information on the congressional that FEMA has received regarding Vieques and Culebra. Jen is staffing the ESF-10 desk at the FEMA NRCC.

Here's contact information for Anthony Battaglia at FEMA:

Anthony J. Battaglia  
Policy Analyst  
Office of Policy and Performance | Response Directorate  
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)  
United States Department of Homeland Security  
Cell: 202-718-3349  
[anthony.battaglia@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:anthony.battaglia@fema.dhs.gov)

Based on experience with other recent requests, Anthony is aware that any congressional replies need to be coordinated with our HQ. I leave this in your capable hands.

Steve

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**From:** FEMA-NRCC-ohul [<mailto:FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2017 11:58 AM

**To:** Touw, Steve <[Touw.Steve@epa.gov](mailto:Touw.Steve@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** Duckworth Warren letter on Vieques and Culebra

Steve,

Here's the link to the letter from Senators Duckworth and Warren:

<https://www.duckworth.senate.gov/sites/default/files/17.10.25%20-%20Duckworth%20Warren%20Letter%20on%20Vieques%20Culebra%20Letter%20Re.%20Superfund%20Site%20-%20Letter%20to%20WH.pdf>

FEMA is asking us to concentrate on the bolded sentence on the bottom of page 1, **"We urge you to make monitoring and securing the Vieques site a priority for the duration of recovery."**

FEMA has two questions for EPA:

1. Is there a need for the government to provide additional security at the site? (they are thinking about the extra security provided at the Dorado site)
2. What is EPA doing to communicate with the residents of Vieques the status of the site?

I provided FEMA with information on EPA's assessment of the Vieques NPL site based on reports in the Region 2 Management Reports. I also discussed with him with the information reported in today's report that EPA has finished our post storm emergency assessments at Superfund and Oil Response Sites in Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands. The sites are stable, do not have offsite impacts, and will not need emergency response work. Any remaining site issues as a result of the storm will be addressed by EPA or DOD as part of the ongoing site project work.

The FEMA lead for this is Anthony Battaglia, who was the lead on the Congressional letter you all responded to last week. I told him I would forward the letter to the Region for a reply. Anthony said he would also draft language and send to us for review.

Thanks,  
Jen

Jen Mosser, NRCC ESF-10 Oil and Hazmat Unit Lead

[FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-NRCC-ohul@fema.dhs.gov)

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